

Carol Coles

From: Carol Coles
Sent: Thursday, July 05, 2012 5:14 PM
To: *everyone; _Council Members; Andy Rieger; Eddie Sims; Jane Cannon; Joy Hampton; Norman News; Oklahoma Daily; OU Nightly
Subject: Robinson Street Underpass Project - Major Milestone
Attachments: Robinson Underpass Project.pdf

City of Norman
201 West Gray
Norman, Oklahoma 73069

Press Release

For Immediate Release

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On Wednesday, July 11, 2012 at 6:30 a.m., Robinson Street will be opened to traffic under the new bridge which carries the Burlington, Northern and Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad track crossing. This is a major milestone of the City's Robinson Street Underpass (Grade Separation) Project which began construction on June 14, 2010. All four lanes on Robinson Street will be open to vehicular traffic as well as a continuous sidewalk for pedestrians on the south side of Robinson Street. The Oklahoma Department of Transportation is administering the construction of the Robinson Street Underpass Project. The prime contractor is Manhattan Road and Bridge Company of Oklahoma City. The lead engineering design firm on the project is HNTB Corporation of Kansas City, Missouri.

The fourth phase of construction on the project, including the northern connections of Robinson Street to Flood Street and Stubbeman Avenue, will also begin on Wednesday, July 11, 2012. By moving traffic from the temporary Robinson Street shoofly to the permanent Robinson Street pavement, the contractor can remove the temporary shoofly and finish construction of the northern portion of the project. Remaining construction items include the two sections of Flood Street and Stubbeman Avenue, completion of the north retaining wall on Robinson Street, legacy trail along the north side of Robinson Street, a storm water detention basin and final grading. A phasing diagram is attached.

The contractor plans to complete the Flood Street portion of the remaining project by September 1, 2012 prior to the first OU football game. The Stubbeman Avenue portion of the project will be completed and opened to traffic by October 1, 2012. When classes resume at Norman North High School in August, 2012, detour routes to the school from Robinson Street will be provided.

The fifth and final phase of the project includes the enhanced landscaping of the corridor and is scheduled to begin in October 2012. Landscaping will be installed in the center median and along the outer edges of Robinson Street. An artist's rendering of the final project is attached.

The Robinson Street Underpass Project from 500 feet west of Flood Avenue to 500 feet east of Stubbeman Avenue is a \$25 million street improvement project approved by the Norman voters in the March, 2005 Bond Election. The 2005 Bond Program also included railroad safety improvements to the Duffy Street/BNSF crossing in downtown Norman. Those improvements were completed in 2009.

Additional questions may be directed to Mr. Shawn O'Leary, Director of Public Works, City of Norman Public Works Department, at 366-5453.